Cultivable land

3012. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total cultivable land area which has access to irrigation facility;

(b) the total cultivable land area which has no access to irrigation facility; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to cover these areas by the irrigation facility keeping in view of the growing demand of foodgrains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) As per information's received from the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, the total cultivable land during 2006-07 was 182.2 million hectares (Mha). The net sown area during the same year was 140.3 Mha and irrigated area was 60.9 Mha.

(c) Irrigation being a being state subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments as per their own priority. However, Government of India provides central assistance to State Governments under various programmes namely Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD and WM) and Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies. Due emphasis has been laid on irrigation development during Eleventh Plan. The overall outlay for water resources during Eleventh Plan has been enhanced to Rs. 2,32,311 crore against the Tenth Plan outlay of Rs. 95,743 crore.

Plan to revive the water bodies

3013. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:
SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is preparing any action plan to revive the water bodies in the States in consultation with the State Governments especially in Andhra Pradesh in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps to be taken in this direction in a specific period for SC/ST people in agency areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) The Government of India sanctioned a pilot scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of 1098 water bodies in 26 Districts of 15 States with an outlay of Rs. 300 crore (Central Share of Rs. 225 crore) during Tenth Plan. The Government has further approved a programme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore (Central share of Rs. 2750 crore) for Eleventh Plan. The programme covers all States of the country including Andhra Pradesh. Under the scheme, the World Bank Loan

Agreement has been signed with Tamil Nadu for Rs. 2182 crore for restoration of 5763 water bodies having a CCA of 4 lakh hectares, with Andhra Pradesh for Rs. 835 crore for restoration of 3000 water bodies with a CCA of 2.5 lakh hectares, with Karnataka for Rs. 268 crore for restoration of 1225 water bodies having a CCA of 0.52 lakh hectare and with Orissa for Rs. 478 crore for restoration of 900 water bodies with CCA of 1.2 lakh hectare.

Conservation of water bodies in Kashmir

3014. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether conservation of water bodies in Kashmir is receiving any attention in the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) The Government of India approved restoration of 22 water bodies in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) at the cost of Rs. 3.06 crore under the pilot scheme for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies during Tenth Plan period. The Government has further approved a programme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore for Eleventh Plan. The programme covers all States of the country including Jammu and Kashmir.

Salinity and water logging

3015. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the magnitude of salinity and water logging (sem), in irrigated commands, State-wise and percentage-wise;

(b) the reasons therefor and loss accrued to crop production, how serious is this threat; and

(c) the corrective steps taken and their effectivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Central Water Commission has carried out a study on "Assessment of water logging, saline and/or alkaline soils in the commands of all major and medium irrigation commands in all the States of India and Union Territories, using satellite remote sensing". The State-wise data in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) With the start of the planned irrigation development in the post independence era, farmers started using irrigation water (sometimes more than needed) in the irrigated commands. In areas, where drainage was not adequate, this resulted in the rise of ground water table. The seepage from unlined canals further contributed to the problem. The rise in ground water table brought the excessive harmful salts on the land surface causing salinity under waterlogged conditions. The germination of seeds does not take place properly and the root developments are inadequate thereby affecting the health and production of crops under waterlogged conditions. Also, waterlogging causes environmental and ecosystem damage.